(e) what steps have been taken by Government to bring the 80% children of unorganised sector under the Labour Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA); (a): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) 'Yes' Sir.

(e) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 apart from prohibiting child Labour in certain specified occupations/Processes also regulates the working conditions of child labour in all other areas including employment in the unorganised sector.

Proposal to Amend the Industrial Disputes Act

751. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what are the details of the proposed amendments;

(c) whether these changes allow the industrialists to shut down their units without obtaining prior permission from Government; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to safeguard the interests of the workers likely to be thrown out of jobs by such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Based on the recommendations made by the Ramanujam Committee on New Industrial Relations Law and deliberations held at various forums and after taking into consideration the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group on Industrial Restructuring, specific proposals to amend the Industrial Disputes Act have been formulated. The proposals are being further processed.

Study Regarding Female Labourers

752. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any state-wise study has been made by Government or social organisations regarding the number of female labourers (including the agricultural sector) in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures have been taken so far by Government to improve their working conditions by the employers and payment of wages in consonance with the price index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Statewise number of female labourers/workers in various industrial categories including the agricultural sector in the country is available in the Union Primary Census abstract 1991 published by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.

(c) The Government have enacted various labour laws which prescribe protective provisions covering aspects like health, welfare, maternity benefits, restrictions in hazardous employment, obligatory rest, etc. for women workers. Equal payment of wages to men & women workers is prescribed under the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976. The responsibility for implementation of these Laws rests primarily with the State Government. The Central Government has been impressing upon the State Governments from time to time to make greater efforts in ensuring that women workers get the benefit of the existing legal provisions and many of them have set up separate cell for the purpose. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948,

the Central Government as well as the State Governments are the appropriate Governments, for the fixation/revision of Minimum Wages for the scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdiction. The State Government/U.T. administration have been advised to revise the Minimum Wages within a period not exceeding two years, or on rise of fifty points in the consumer price index numbers, whichever is earlier. They have also been advised to consider payment of variable dearness allowances linked to the Consumer Price Index number in the Minimum Wages.

प्रसूति अवकाश की प्रसुविधा पर प्रतिबंध लगाया जाना

753. **श्री रामसिंह राठवा:** क्या श्रम मंत्री 20 दिसम्बर, 1993 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 2446 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या प्रसूति प्रसुविधा अधिनियम, 1961 में तीसरे बच्चे के जन्म लेने पर प्रसूति अवकाश को समाप्त करने संबंधी प्रस्तावित संशोधन कर दिया गया है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इसे कब तक लागू किये जाने की संभावना है?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी०ए० संगमा): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Formulation of New Labour Policy

754. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a new labour policy;

(b) if so, whether the Draft of the new labour policy is before the Cabinet for approval;

(c) if so, the details of the new labour policy; and

(d) by when it is likely to be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (b). The labour policy of the Government of India is embodied in several laws passed by the Parliament from time to time covering the principal areas of industrial relations, social security and occupational health and safety. The policy is also embodied in special laws meant for the benefit of unorganised workers. These laws are amended from time to time to be consistent with general policy approaches that emerge from national level tripartite consultations and conventions of the International Labour Organisation ratified by the Government of India. This is a continuous process.

महिला श्रमिकों पर अत्याचार

755. **श्री राम नरेश यादव:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा महिला श्रमिकों के शोषण और अत्याचारों को रोकने के लिये क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं;

(ख) उनकी मजदूरी निर्धारित करने और उन्हें अन्य सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिये कौन-कौन सी नीतियां बनाये जाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) महिला श्रमिकों की दशाओं में सुधार लाने के लिये क्या प्रभावी कदम उठाए जाने की संभावना है?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी०ए० संगमा): (क) से (ग) सभी कर्मकारों को विधिक संरक्षा उपलब्ध होने के अतिरिक्त विभिन्न श्रम कानूनों अर्थात् कारखाना अधिनियम, 1948, प्रसूति प्रसुविधा अधिनियम, 1961, बागान श्रम अधिनियम, 1951, खान अधिनियम, 1952 आदि में महिला कर्मकारों के लिए स्वास्थ्य, कल्याण,